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DOWNTOWN, PARK SLOPE & BAY RIDGE EDITIONS

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SLOPE METER HIKE “TRIPLE” PARKING City says fee will help

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

Parking in Park Slope got much pricier this week — but it also could get a bit easier.

In hopes of freeing up parking spaces on traffic-clogged Fifth and Seventh avenues, the city jacked up peak-hour rates on parking meters as part of a six-month pilot program that began on Monday.

Workers have recalibrated parking meters to match the citywide base rate of \$7.75 per hour (up from the previous rate of \$5.50 per hour), and implemented a prime-time fee of \$1.50 per hour between noon and 4 p.m. every Monday through Saturday.

Proponents told The Brooklyn Paper that the higher fees will stop drivers who park on Fifth Avenue between Sackett and Third streets, and Seventh Avenue between Lincoln Place and Sixth Street from loitering — making it easier to find spaces on the thruways and potentially bringing more customers to neighborhood shops.

“It will improve parking conditions by making more spaces available and creating more turnover,” said Dalia Hall, a planner with the Department of Transportation.

Hall added that the so-called “Park Smart” approach could “lessen double-parking” and “improve the overall feeling of the streets” — but some

Park Slope merchants said they’d back the project only if it frees up additional parking spaces.

“People park on the street all day long, it’s ridiculous,” said Mitch Szpicek of Little Things Toy Store on Seventh Avenue between Carroll Street and Garfield Place.

“I’m for it, because it might get rid of people who are hogging parking spots,”

Transit expert Michael Cairt touted the program not only because of its possible impact on parking, but also because of the extensive traffic statistics that community groups will receive after the six-month study.

“The data that we will get will be a great benefit for the community,” he noted.

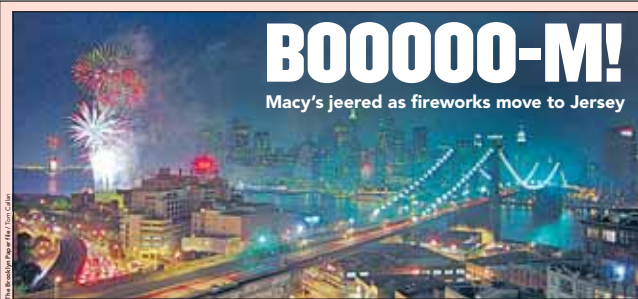
Most everyone in Park Slope agrees that something must be done to free up parking spaces in a neighborhood where researchers once found that 45 percent of the drivers clogging Seventh Avenue were simply looking for a place to park.

But some shop owners doubt that the so-called “congestion pricing” for meters will curb the parking problem.

“It won’t change anything,” said Jaesee Solomon, manager of Cousin John’s Café on Seventh Avenue between Lincoln and Berkeley places.

“A lot of my customers complain that they can’t find parking, but they will come either way.”

—with Evan Gardner



BOOOOO-M! Macy’s jeered as fireworks move to Jersey

In 2006, fireworks could easily be seen from the rooftop of 70 Washington St. That won’t be the case this year.

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

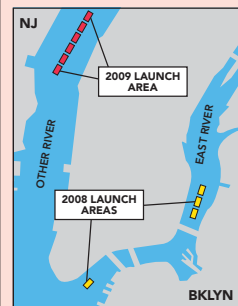
Darkness will rule the skies of Brooklyn this Fourth of July because Macy’s has decided to hold its annual fireworks extravaganza on the distant banks of the Hudson River rather than its usual location along the East River.

The retail giant announced on Monday that

the launching pads for the colorful fireworks have been relocated to a stretch of the Hudson between 23rd and 50th streets — a spot that’s not only beyond Brooklyn’s horizon, but also farther north than usual.

The change will hinder views from the Columbia Street Waterfront District all the way to Greenpoint — and inland to Fort Greene, Park

See **BOOO-M** on page 13



Muddy waters

Macy’s decision to move its annual Fourth of July fireworks show from our East River to New Jersey’s Hudson River has incensed Brooklynites — giving us reason enough for our first-ever Hudson River vs. East River smackdown.

HUDSON RIVER	Name of waterway	EAST RIVER
Formerly “Muh-he-kun-ne-tuk,” or “the river that flows both ways.” Name usurped to “honor” Henry Hudson	Origin of name	From the English, “East,” or “the thing that is to the right of the other thing”
Heavily polluted above Albany	Minor concern	Not actually a river, but a tidal estuary
Performs a lap dance on New Jersey every day	Serious flaw	Gets dumped on by the Bronx River
Without it, the “Empire State” would have been a suburb of Newark	Mitigating factor	Still free to drive over

DARK NIGHT

This year, New Jersey residents will see the rockets’ red glare on July 4. Brooklyn will mark our nation’s birthday in silence and gloom.

Ridge bakery’s in door jam City hits her with fine for keeping an open front

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

A Bay Ridge baker left the door to her 87th Street sweet-shop open to lure in customers with her sugary treats — but instead attracted a city health inspector who slammed her with a citation for her illegal open-door policy.

The Health Department investigator summoned Ivy Bakery owner Daniellian Louie on April 29 for allegedly violating health code section 81, subsection 23 — which specifically requires “all openings into the outer air be effectively screened and self-closing... to prevent the access by insects and other pests.”

But Louie claims she’s never had bug problems — and will fight the city’s attempt to force her to bar her door.

“I open the door because I don’t have any ventilation,” said Louie. “When I’m baking, it’s about 100 degrees with the doors closed. It’s hard to breathe.”

The open door isn’t just a means of cooling the Ivy Bak-



Daniellian Louie, owner of the Ivy Bakery in Bay Ridge, was cited by the city for keeping the door to her shop open. Yes, that’s illegal.

ery — it’s also a needed form of advertising for the shop, which offers a wide array of cupcakes, pastries and pies.

“When I have the door open, I have people coming in from blocks away saying they can smell

the brownies and the cookies that I’m making,” said Louie, whose shop is on a side street away from the hustle and bustle of Third Avenue.

“When I have the door closed, I have fewer customers.”

Louie — who was also cited for

not wearing a hair net — claims the violation is unfair because so many other eateries keep their doors open.

“There are pizzerias, delis, and butchers that all have their

See **OPEN** on page 11



Shear amazement!

The Prospect Park Zoo’s annual “Fleecefest” was another hair-raising success. The yearly sheep-shearing drew crowds all weekend at the zoo, and fans of Wallace the sheep were not disappointed. As our stunning photos show, Wallace lost 10 pounds in a matter of minutes. You have to admit, he doesn’t look half baabad.

Buzz in the ‘Park’

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The lovely grounds of the enchanted River Cafe will be ripped apart to create a pathway linking disparate ends of the Brooklyn Bridge Park development. The Brooklyn Paper has learned.

The restaurant has a romantic perch and breathtaking views of the Manhattan

City pulls some ‘Park’ bucks SEE PAGE 11

skyline, but it actually sits on city-owned land at the end of Old Fulton Street — an area that planners hope to incorporate into the project.

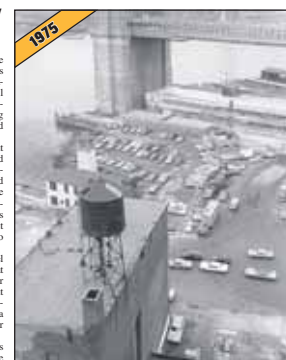
As a result, the River Cafe would lose some area from its landscaped lawns and parking lot to the controversial open space and condo project, which stretches along the Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO waterfront.

The path that would be cut through the River Cafe would provide a link between existing state- and city-owned portions of the park along the waterfront between the Manhattan and Brooklyn bridges and the proposed segment from Old Fulton Street to Atlantic Avenue.

River Cafe owner Michael “Buzzy” O’Keefe hinted that his restaurant was in danger this winter, when he sent out a rambling missive to restaurant regulars and the media that alluded to a crisis over his site.

“The River Cafe’s park is without question one of the prettiest little parks in the city.

See **RIVER** on page 11



Here’s what the site looked like before the River Cafe opened in 1977.

Arena rejected!

School blocks its shot at gym

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

St. Joseph’s College has backed away from its plans for a basketball gymnasium on Clinton Avenue after an outcry from neighbors that the architecturally uninspired fieldhouse would ruin one of the most beautiful blocks in Clinton Hill.

After declining repeated requests from The Brooklyn Paper to talk about its expansion plan for an article two weeks ago, the college finally issued a statement saying it had decided against the gymnasium in hopes of retaining good relations with its neighbors.

See **GYM** on page 13



St. Joseph’s College’s arena plan makes us sick

campus and its beautiful surroundings.

The plan envisioned a 330-seat gymnasium for the college’s basketball teams on its land between Wiloughby and DeKalb avenues. Community Board 2 supported the project, but St. Joseph’s still needed to secure the final go-ahead from the Landmarks Preservation Commission to build in the Clinton Hill historic district.

But the college ran into trouble from

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It's the audacity of vote!

Obama man from Downtown Bklyn — convicted of fraud in Ohio — speaks!

By Ben Muessig
The Brooklyn Paper

A Downtown Brooklynite who illegally voted for Barack Obama in Ohio last year didn't do it to cheat the system. He did it because it was easy.

Breaking his long silence after last week's stunning — but, actually, quite expected — conviction in an Ohio court, Livingston Street resident Tate Hausman maintained that he had no intention of committing voter fraud, though that is exactly what he pleaded guilty to last week. "Politics is a dirty business and I was really trying to do it cleanly," Hausman told The Brooklyn Paper in



BUCK-EYE! Downtown resident Tate Hausman claims he made an honest mistake when he voted in Ohio in November's presidential election.

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an exclusive interview.
Hausman was hit with a \$1,000 fine from a court in the Buckeye State, where he had relocated in order to encourage students, homeless people and other under-represented voters to cast ballots.

Of course, he voted there, too.

That's when the trouble began.
Hausman cast an early ballot for Obama on Oct. 4, believing he was allowed to do so because he had been living in Columbus for more than the 30-days requirement for voter eligibility.

But Franklin County Ohio Prosecutor Ron O'Brien argued successfully that the rules stipulate that any Ohio voter must intend to remain an Ohio resident — something no self-respecting Brooklynite would agree to.

Hausman claims he didn't realize he had broken one of Ohio's most sacred tenets until he received a letter outlining the law — but he received it three days after the deadline had passed for withdrawing an illegal vote without punishment.

"When I saw that letter, my stomach fell to my knees," Hausman said.

Though he returned home triumphant after Obama's landmark victory, the threat of prosecution hung over his head like a bad dream of a

Hillary victory.
Hausman was summoned back to Ohio last week to face the music. Ignorance of the law, it turns out, really is no defense.

But despite the verdict, Hausman said he stands behind his decision to move to the Rust Belt state, where his group — which was not officially affiliated with the Obama campaign — mobilized more than 6,000 voters.

"Did I make a mistake? Absolutely. What I did run afoul of the law and I took my lumps," he said. "But I was proud as hell when I came out of that voting booth and I'm incredibly proud of the work we did."

Right wing blogs didn't see it that way at the time. When the Hausman story broke last year, McCain supporters made Hausman a symbol of liberal voter manipulation.

Hausman denied it, saying that he had decided to vote in the tightly contested Buckeye State simply because it was easier than submitting an absentee ballot in New York.

"I was working in Ohio because it was a battleground state, but I didn't vote there because I thought one vote would sway the election," said Hausman. "Honestly, I voted there because it was convenient and I thought it was legal."

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THE stoop

NEIGHBORHOOD REPORT

FORT GREENE & CLINTON HILL

Less cleaning, more parking

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Fort Greene and Clinton Hill will get reduced street cleaning — and with it less of the alternate-side-of-the-street shuffle for drivers — after the city completes a side-to-eight-week suspension of alternate-side parking regulations that begins on Monday.

As it did last summer in Park Slope, Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill and Red Hook, the city is opting to fully suspend alternate-side parking while it updates roughly 2,000 “No parking” signs to reduce the hours when parked cars must make way for street sweepers.

The two communities have long requested that the city reduce residential street



This summer, the twice-weekly alternate-side shuffle will end on streets in Fort Greene, like South Elliott Place (above).

cleaning — and, concurrently, no parking hours — but some motorists aren't exactly dancing in the streets even if they now will only have to move their car once a week, instead of twice.

“We’re in favor of the change, but my excitement

is tempered by the fear that non-neighborhood residents could park here for long periods,” said Paul Palazzo, president of the Fort Greene Association. “There might be an increase in interloper parking.”

Even on streets where residents have to move four times a week — twice for each side of the street — the hassle is soon as the last line of defense against outsiders snatching up coveted spots.

“People are territorial about their parking spots,” said Ursula Hegewisch, who lives on S. Elliott Place, which is swept four times per week. “With our proximity to the trains, they look forward to alternate-side parking. Ours is from 9:30 am to 11 am, [and] that timing means fewer people can park here and ride the subway to work.”

Others were worried that streets would get dirty, despite a promise from the Department of Sanitation to increase sweeps of commercial corridors and intensify enforcement of litter rules.

“I’m fine with [the parking change] — as long as the garbage is picked up,” said Brian Robinson, the owner of Myrtle Vines wine shop on Myrtle Avenue.

The area affected by the upcoming enforcement hiatus is bounded by Fulton Street on the south, Flushing Avenue on the north, Classon Avenue on the east, and parts of Flatbush Avenue, Myrtle Avenue and Navy Street on the west.

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Cops: Teen terrors arrested!

By Thomas Tracy
Community Newspaper Group

Cops say they have nabbed the teenage terrors responsible for at least six muggings in Brooklyn Heights.

Police in the neighborhood's 84th Precinct said this week that the underage thugs — two 13-year-olds and a 15-year-old — were apprehended at around 7 pm on

April 25 as they surrounded their sixth victim, an 18-year-old, on Livingston Street near Court Street.

Captain Mark DiPaolo said that cops had targeted the three troublemakers before they jumped their unsuspecting victim.

“Our plainclothes officers were watching their actions, and when they were about to

do the robbery, we swooped in,” DiPaolo said.

Investigators have linked the thieves to six other robberies that they allegedly committed, the Brooklyn Heights Blog reported.

The reign of terror began in March, DiPaolo said, when four of five teens surrounded a 16-year-old on Court Street and a 16-year-old on Jordanum

Street into separate incidents. One of the victims suffered a broken jaw, DiPaolo said.

The alleged attackers then began to target older victims. On April 4, three thugs surrounded and threatened a 38-year-old man on Sidney Place near Jordanum Street until he gave up his iPhone, an iPod and cash.

—with Gary Buiso

WINDSOR TERRACE & PARK SLOPE

Board revs its engines

Terrace group angry over Park car restrictions

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

Critics of new restrictions on drivers in Prospect Park mouthed off at city officials on Monday night, lambasting a plan that would make the park safer for cyclists and other park users.

The city last month alienated members of Community Board 7, which covers Windsor Terrace and has historically opposed anti-car policies in Prospect Park, when it decided to shut the Third Street entrance and exit, as well as the 16th Street exit-only portal during the evening rush hour — measures that CB 7 says will compound traffic on Prospect Park Southwest.

The already implemented changes allow southbound cars to exit the park only at Park Circle. Some drivers have opted to not enter the park at Grand Army Plaza at all, critics said, putting them on local roads.

The bumper-to-bumper traffic was unbelievable [even before the change], said board member Joan Botti on Monday night. “Now

that Third Street is closed, it's even worse.”

The changes were made to improve pedestrian and cyclist safety, Department of Transportation officials said. On Monday, the agency revealed data about traffic volume in the park from 5 to 7 pm that showed marginal effects from the closed gateways.

During a “peak hour,” for example, about 250 vehicles head southbound through the

park, entering at Grand Army Plaza. About 50 cars typically exit at Third Street and another 37 departed via 16th Street.

That means that 87 of the 250 drivers would currently be seeking alternate routes, possibly on local streets in Windsor Terrace.

“The volumes are light enough that there's a minimal impact,” said Ann Marie Doherty, the agency's director of research of implementation and safety.

But members of the community board countered that Windsor Terrace shouldn't have to bear the costs of an increasingly car-free Prospect Park, which currently only permits cars on the East Drive for two hours in the morning and on the West Drive during the two hours of evening rush.

“The compromise is down to two hours,” pleaded CB7 Chairman Randy Peters, who accused the Department of Transportation of having “an anti-car agenda.”

“This is just a chipping away [of cars in the park],” he said.

“Why not make it ourselves?” So it goes.

and the worms were back doing their dirty work in their three-drawer dresser.

Residents are invited to toss in shredded paper, banana peels, egg shells or other organic waste.

“It's intended to be a real compost spot,” Gourfain said. “And, eventually, the box will compost itself. It's already happening. It's starting to warp and decay. That's genuine Swedish furniture, you know.”

Gourfain said she wanted Vonnegut on her first much box because of the writer's approach to life and death in his immortal work, “Slaughterhouse-Five.”

“Whenever someone dies, he writes, ‘So it goes,’” she said. “That's what composting is all about. Compost is expensive — all that gas that goes into transporting it.”

“Why not make it ourselves?” So it goes.

COLUMBIA STREET WATERFRONT

Vonnegut mystery solved!

Now compost-loving artist sets her sights on Poe

By Heather Holland
The Brooklyn Paper

The Kurt Vonnegut dirt-box on Columbia Street is only the beginning.

Days after The Brooklyn Paper went front page with the Vonnegut-covered composting chest near Sackett Street, the worm-loving artist who created it finally revealed herself — and a new secret.

“My next one is for Edgar Allan Poe,” said composting champion, and Tiffany Place resident, Noon Gourfain. “I like what he said about the descent into the macabre. I like the idea of linking a dead literary figure to composting.”

Not everyone, apparently, did. Two days after her first story, vandals desecrated the Vonnegut dirt-box, knocking it over and leaving its wormy inhabitants scattered.

The next day, Gourfain righted the box.



Artist Noon Gourfain is behind the Vonnegut composting box.

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“Why not make it ourselves?” So it goes.

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Beat up outside Co-op

78TH PRECINCT

Park Slope
 A member of the Park Slope Food Co-op was brutally attacked and mugged for her cellphone on April 30.

The victim, 33, told cops that she had just left the Union Street foodie paradise, which is between Sixth and Seventh avenues, at around 9 pm when a man approached from behind, knocked her to the ground, punched her face and head, and stole the Sprint mobile.

A witness followed, but lost sight of the mugger as he fled eastbound on Lincoln Place.

Three burgs

At least three apartments were broken into last week. Here are the grisly details.

• A thief nabbed a Mac laptop after breaking into an apartment on Balic Street between Fourth and Fifth avenues at around 9:45 pm on April 27. The thief must have been stealthy, as the tenant told cops that she was home at the time of the break-in.

• Another thief got another

POLICE BLOTTER

Find more online every Wednesday at BrooklynPaper.com/blotter

laptop in a burglary of a President Street apartment on April 30. In this case, the victim told cops that she was home between 8 am and 8:45 pm, when the thief entered through a kitchen window of the first-floor unit, which is between Sixth and Seventh avenues.

• That same day, a thief broke into a building right next door, this time getting a fancy digital camera from a fourth-floor apartment. In this case, the resident told cops that the apartment was vacant between 11 am and 11:05 pm.

Car craziness

It's Park Slope, so it's no surprise that five car break-ins were reported last week in a precinct that has seen a 60-percent uptick in car crimes so far this year.

• The reign of terror began overnight on April 24, when a thief made off with a 24-year-old 12th Street resident's Honda Civic. The victim told cops that he had parked the car between Third and Fourth avenues at 4 pm and returned to it at noon the next day to find it gone.

• A thief stole \$5,000 in surgical equipment after breaking into a late model Nissan on Fifth Street on April 28. The 25-year-old victim told cops that he had parked between Eighth Avenue and Prospect Park West at around 10 am, but found the rear window smashed and the equipment gone when he returned at 9:30 pm.

• A Pennsylvania man lost a laptop after a thief busted into his 2007 Ford Edge, which he had parked on Prospect Place at 10:30 pm on May 1.

— **Gersh Kuntzman**
 90TH PRECINCT
 Williamsburg-Bushwick

Art crime

Crooks purloined a purse during an April 24 gallery opening for the acclaimed artist Posterboy.

The thieves grabbed the Coach bag — which contained \$80, medication, IDs, and keys — from a back room in the Morgan Avenue art space 3rd Ward and escaped from the venue, which is near Stagg Street, between 7:30 pm and 10 pm.

Photograph

An unscrupulous shutterbug snatched costly cameras and photo gear from an April

26 photo shoot.

The thief sneaked into the studio, which is on Berry Street between South Fourth and Fifth streets, during a shoot at around midnight. While the photographer was looking the other way, the crook jacked a Canon camera, a costly Canon lens, as well as a memory card and other equipment.

— **Ben Muessig**
 94TH PRECINCT
 Greenpoint-Williamsburg

Sound and fury

A pair of seemingly armed perps held up a 26-year-old at the corner of North 11th and Roebuck streets early on April 28.

Before the muggers confronted their mark at around 1:50 am, the victim heard what he believed was a gun being cocked.

Seconds after the horrifying sound, the crooks approached the victim and threatened his life.

“Don’t look at me or I’ll shoot you,” one of the thugs said.

The victim handed over his wallet, bag, iPod, cellphone, and credit cards and the crooks fled.

Getaway cars

Northside muggers continue to use getaway vehicles to escape from their crimes. Here are the latest reports of drive-by robberies.

• A pair of gun-toting perps robbed two victims on Eckford Avenue before fleeing in a minivan on April 27.

The muggers struck near the corner of Meserole Avenue at around 12:10 am.

“Give me all you got,” one of the crooks demanded as he revealed a black handgun.

The victims handed over a purse and a wallet containing cash, credit cards, and cellphones and fled.

• Three crooks stuck up a 27-year-old near the corner of Meeker Avenue and North Seventh Street on May 2 and escaped in a dark sedan.

The muggers confronted the victim at around 2 am and one of the assailants — who was wearing a white baseball cap and a leopard-print sweatshirt — pulled out a small pocket knife.

“Don’t move,” the crook ordered, while his accomplices pilfered the victim’s pockets.

The thieves grabbed the victim’s cash, debit card, credit card, and phone before escaping.

68TH PRECINCT

Bay Ridge

Johnny cash

A villain dressed entirely in black robbed a 48-year-old man at gunpoint on Fourth Avenue early on April 28.

The victim told cops that he was at the corner of 82nd Street at around 4 am when the suspect walked up, asked for the time, and pulled out a gun.

“Give me your money or I’ll shoot you!” he threatened.

The victim did as he was told, handing over \$100 and his phone, and the suspect fled toward 83rd Street.

Quiet crime

A burglar nabbed a cellphone from an 85th Street apartment as the owner slept soundly inside on April 29.

The 59-year-old victim told cops that he went to bed inside his home between Fourth and Fifth avenues, at around 3 am and woke four hours later to notice that his living room window and his front door were wide open, and the \$400 phone was gone.

He was home!

Someone stole a wallet from an 85th Street home while the homeowner was sleeping on April 29.

The victim, 34, told police that he woke up at 5 am to find that a thief had entered through an unlocked window, climbed inside and grabbed his wallet from the apartment, which is between Fourth and Fifth avenues. The suspect made off with \$100 and various debit and credit cards.

— **Emily Lavin**

GUNSMOKE! Two hit in DUMBO's wild wild east

By Thomas Tracy

Community Newspaper Group

Gunfire ripped through a gentrifying corner of DUMBO last week, injuring two men in separate shootings just a few hours apart.

In the first incident, a man told police that he was standing near the corner of York and Gold street at around 3 pm on April 25 when someone opened fire, hitting the victim in both legs.

Despite the pain, the victim jumped into his 2004 Toyota 4 Runner and sped off — but didn’t get far before he lost control and crashed.

Another man was shot in the leg after parking his car on Bridge Street near York Street at around 5 am the next day.

He told police that a group of men was fighting nearby when he heard three or four shots and suddenly felt a sharp pain in his left leg.

Cops said they don’t know if the shooting incidents were related.

76TH PRECINCT

Carroll Gardens

Cobble Hill-Red Hook

Rare change

A burglar stole a man’s rare coin collection while the Henry Street resident was on a trip from April 23–30.

The numismatist returned to his home between Degraw and Kane streets to find that his drawers had been rifled and that his stockpile of silver dollars, “Kennedy” coins and assorted “old dimes” had been taken.

Rough ride

A thief almost stole a man’s bicycle on Court Street on April 29, but bumped the getaway and landed instead in jail.

The victim, 23, saw the culprit ascending with his bike at 12:30 pm between Baltic and Warren streets, and briefly struggled with the hoodlum, who succeeded in pedaling away.

But moments later, the thief, 45, abandoned the bike and ran on foot, only to be apprehended by pursuing officers.

— **Mike McLaughlin**

88TH PRECINCT

Fort Greene-Clinton Hill

Boy robs girl

He settled for just a piece of the action.

A swindling Casanova robbed a woman as they shared a taxi back to her place in Fort Greene after carnal sparks flew in a bar on April 28.

When the cab got to her pad, near the corner of Lafayette Avenue and Cumberland Street, at 2:10 am, the woman, 29, handed the charming man her half of the cab fare. Instead of contributing his portion, then going upstairs for a nightcap (and, perhaps, more), the man took his would-be lover’s share and bolted from the taxi. The victim said she lost \$80.

Your nabe

A knife-wielding mantried to mug one of his neighbors inside their Lafayette Avenue building on May 1.

The victim, 46, said he was throwing out his trash when the other tenant accosted with him a blade and said, “I want \$100 or else.” The victim, did not pay, but crept away in fear — a feat that persists.

Suit yourself

A fashion-navy crook stole two tailor-made suits from an unlocked truck on St. James Place on April 26.

The victim said she parked the car between DeKalb and Lafayette avenues at 5:30 pm and returned at 10 pm to find the allegedly snazzy threads gone.

All well-dressed men are considered suspects.

— **Mike McLaughlin**

84TH PRECINCT

Brooklyn Heights-DUMBO

Boerum Hill-Downtown

Bicycle thief

Who said bicyclists are friendly folks?

A 20-year-old was mugged by two free-wheeling renegades on State Street on April 27.

The victim told cops that he put his wallet on the counter of the Duane Reade pharmacy on Fulton Street near Smith Street at around 6:30 pm.

When he returned his attention to the wallet, it was gone — along with \$220 that it contained.

Antique swipe

Call it “Raiders of the Lost Antique Store.”

A \$2,400 bronze statue and a \$500 Chinese vase were “liberated” from Citra Antique on Atlantic Avenue near Bond Street sometime between 11 am and 4 pm on April 29.

— **Thomas Tracy**

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

May 8, 2009



That's folk, a!!!

Brooklyn Folk Festival offers jam-packed lineup

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

The last time a concert was billed as "three days of peace, love and music," an upstate New York farm bloomed into the epicenter of rock music.

The same thing is about to happen to Brooklyn.

For three days starting on May 15, folk musicologist Eli Smith will launch the first annual "Brooklyn Folk Festival" at Jolopy, a two-year-old Columbia Street music hall and guitar repair shop that has quickly become home to the city's folk, blues and bluegrass fellow travelers.

"Manhattan has become inhospitable for live music," said Smith, a Park Sloper who plays banjo in the Dust Busters (see schedule).

Smith didn't need to look too far to put together three full nights of kick-ass music with performers who range from Delta blues guitarists, bluegrass fiddlers, country singers, a band of whistlers and even Artie Stille, who hums into a ceramic jug with an "XXX" on the side.

At a rehearsal and photo shoot this week, Smith pointed around the room at the wealth of talent that would be appearing at the festival — and everyone called Brooklyn the city's true home for folk music.

Feral Foster, for example, relocated his weekly "Roots and Ruckus" blues, folk and bluegrass jam session from Village Microlog Street in Manhattan to Jolopy last year and never looked back.

"This place is so much better than Mac-

Get folked

Here's the full schedule for the Brooklyn Folk Festival at Jolopy:

Friday, May 15

8:45 pm: East River String Band
9:30 pm: Hubby Jenkins
10 pm: The Tangelosi Cards
11 pm: Jessy Carolina

11:40 pm: Brotherhood of the Jug Band Blues
12:20 am: Frank Hoier

Saturday, May 16

2-4:30 pm: Jam session
7:30 pm: Willy Gantrini
8:45 pm: Sana Ndiaye
9:30 pm: Pat Conte
10 pm: Alex Battles with Banjo Rama
10:45 pm: Elizabeth Butters
11:20 pm: The Dust Busters

Midnight: Feral Foster
12:30 am: John Houx

Sunday, May 17

6:30 pm: Ernie Vega
7 pm: Mamie Minch
7:30 pm: Bob Malenky
8 pm: John Cohen
8:45 pm: Semilla
9:15 pm: Blind Boy Paxton
10 pm: Strung Out String Band
*At the bar next door

douglas Street," said Foster, who'll perform his apocalyptic blues on the second night of the festival. "All the good venues are in Brooklyn now. In Manhattan, the club owners are so worried about paying the rent that they have to compromise the quality."

Hearing the conversation, blues guitarist Hubby Jenkins, all of 23 years old, came over and added his two bits.

"Manhattan is a symbol for all of what's wrong with contemporary music right now," he said, though frequently interrupting himself to sing Sonny Boy Williamson's "9 Below Zero," a song that makes Jenkins's voice sound a lot older than 23 years.

"Contemporary music is just a—t," he said. "Young people are realizing it and that's why they are reaching back to the older forms, like folk and blues. Why listen to rap when you can listen to James Brown?"

Or, more precisely, a jam session at Jolopy? While a photographer set up the publicity shot, Smith started banging away on a 19th-century English banjo, guitarist Ernie Vega grabbed a mandolin and Jenkins played along on bone castanets. Suddenly, the trio was playing "Old Joe Clarke," that World War I-era mountain ballad.

Meanwhile, Lynette Wiley, who started Jolopy with her husband Geoff after both got tired of their lives in Chicago, fluttered around like the new folk movement's mother hen that she is.

"When we opened this place, I thought the hardest part would be finding talent to play, but that was the easy part," said Wiley, who confessed that she and her husband scouted other Brooklyn-esque locations, including the two Portlands and San Francisco, before settling on Columbia Street.

A regular day in Brooklyn: Performers for the first annual Brooklyn Folk Festival include (from left) Hubby Jenkins, Artie Stille, John Houx, Lovercat, Feral Foster, Eli Smith, Craig Judelman, Ernie Vega, Willy Gantrini and Jessy Carolina.

She didn't regret the decision. "Within a 10-minute wait are some of the best musicians in America," he said. "That explains why the formal schedule for the folk festival reads like a Greatest Hits album."

"I would have been a part of anything that Eli put together," said Frank Hoier, the Bard of Bushwick, who'll close out the opening night slate. "But this bill is so outrageous that I would have said 'yes' even if it was sponsored by McDonalds!"

The overall result is a Woodstock for Brooklyn's booming folk scene.

"The goal is to have a real folk festival that isn't something that calls itself a folk festival, but is really just singer-songwriters," Smith said. "We have traditional American music — blues, old time string music, New Orleans jazz, Appalachian ballads, plus West African and Mexican folk music."

"This is Brooklyn's chance to take back the word 'folk' once and for all."

Brooklyn Folk Festival at Jolopy (315 Columbia St., between Hamilton Avenue and Woodhull Street in the Columbia Street Waterfront District, (718) 395-3243, May 15-17. Tickets are \$10 per day or \$25 for all three days. For info, visit www.brooklynfolkfest.com.

BOOKS

Funkomania!

Ben Greenman, an editor at the New Yorker, set out to write a biography of Sly Stone and ended up with a serious novel about an entirely made-up funk rock legend.

Believe him; we're better off.

"Turns out, I'm not a biographer; I didn't want to do the research," said Greenman, who has lived in Park Slope for 15 years. "I preferred to make stuff up."

The result is "Please Step Back" (Melville House), which centers on Rock Fox, a fictional "screwed-up rock star" whose career parallels the racial turbulence and upheavals of the 1960s, said Greenman.

Through the book is fictional, the book party will bring back some all-too-real memories, thanks to costumes and a hazardous level of funk.

"It's going to be huge," said Dennis Johnson, Greenman's DUMBO-based publisher. "There'll be a live DJ, and the first 72 people wearing clothing from the early '70s get a free cocktail and a copy of the book."

A party like that could bring out a diverse crowd. "Busta Rhymes might be there," he said. "And Walter Mosley."

"Please Step Back" launch party at Galapagos Art Space (16 Main St. between Plymouth and Water streets in DUMBO, (718) 222-8500), May 12, 7 pm. Free. — Evan Gardner

ART

Jury of 'Pier'

Dawn Robyn Petrik could have been excused for going negative with the Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition's spring art show, but she went with hope anyway.

Petrik, the group's chairwoman, oversees more than 300 artists who will exhibit at the "Coke of Hope" show, which runs through June 14 in Red Hook. These may be uncertain times, but artists have responded with optimism.

"Almost every piece of art [in the show] could be considered hopeful," said Petrik, a Windsor Terrace-based artist.

The pieces include Petrik's own hand-painted trillion-dollar bills, which feature faces of President Obama, John Lennon and Bernie Madoff.

"It's all tongue and cheek," said Petrik. "It's impossible for most people to actually understand how much money one trillion dollars is. I had to look up how many zeros it was."

Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition spring show float of Van Brunt Street in Red Hook, (718) 596-2506. For info, visit www.bwac.org. — Meredith Deliso

EVENT

Nordic track

History hasn't been kind to the Vikings, what with the talk of pillage and destruction (it's exaggerated). But two events next week can change that.

Start with the annual Viking Fest on May 16 at Owl's Head Park in Bay Ridge. This year's theme: "Tossed by the Vikings" (which is perhaps not the best theme when you're trying to dodge the "pillage" label).

The festival will feature rides, Scandinavian crafts, Swedish folk dancers and Turkish drummers. There will also be pickled herring and fiskepaddling (but you knew that).

"Our goal is to share Scandinavian culture with the larger community," said Victoria Hofmo, founder of the Scandinavian East Coast Museum. "It will be educational and kitsch."

A little less kitsch, alas: one of the highlights, a half-size replica Viking ship, was cancelled this year (apparently, even Viking descendants are feeling the recession).

The next day is the Norwegian Constitution Day Parade, which culminates in the official crowning of Miss Norway of Greater New York.

Beauty queens? Maybe the Vikings weren't so fearsome after all.

Viking Fest at Owl's Head Park (68th Street and Colonial Road in Bay Ridge), Saturday, May 16, noon-5 pm. Free. For info, call (718) 768-9963.

Constitution Day Parade begins at 90th Street and Fifth Avenue in Bay Ridge and marches up to Let's Eat Park, 67th Street between 50th and 57th avenues, May 17, 130 pm. Free. For info, call (718) 745-6653. — Aisha Gawad

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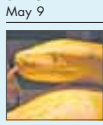
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EDITORS' PICKS

SATURDAY
May 9



Snake's day

It's a special time when a girl turns 15 — especially when she's more than 20 feet long! Come take part in a very special quinceañera celebration for Fantasia, the Brooklyn Children's Museum's albino Burmese python. Brooklyn's favorite snake will be feted with arts and crafts, dance lessons, and a lesson on the amazing powers of a snake's muscles.

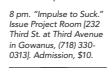
11:30 am, "Fantasia's Fiesta" Brooklyn Children's Museum, 145 Brooklyn Ave. at St. Mark's Avenue in Crown Heights, (718) 735-4400. Admission, \$7.50.

WEDNESDAY
May 13

Nut & honey

Remember coccaine-smear Karen Finley? The performance artist who once put Winnie the Pooh in S&M gear is at it again with a new spoken word show, "Impulse to Suck: The Performance of the Apology and the Separation of Sex and State." Inspired by Eliot Spitzer, Finley examines "the psychodrama of our political leaders" and "the feminine archetypes of mother and whore" — our favorite topic.

8 pm, "Impulse to Suck" leave Brooklyn Room 232 Third St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 330-0313. Admission, \$10.



Teenage wasteland

Teen angst has never been so cool, thanks to our pal, Park Slope teen lit queen, Libba Bray. Tonight, Bray will read from "The Sweet Far Thing," the final novel of the Gemma Doyle trilogy. Think rebellious debutantes, repressed sexuality, a Victorian finishing school, and, as Bray once described it to The Brooklyn Paper, "Victorian glam rock opera with beastes."

Who could ask for more?

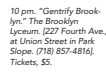
7 pm, BookCourt, 163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean Streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677. Free.

THURSDAY
May 14

Improv dreamteam

Gentrify Brooklyn is an improv show on a mission — to lure the city's most talented comedians away from Manhattan and back where they belong. Tonight, the show features improv power trios m.a.d., which consists of three women, and Sidecar, which is comprised of three funny-men (is anyone else thinking that these groups must somehow form a family, a la the Brady Bunch?).

10 pm, "Gentrify Brooklyn" The Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. at Union Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816. Tickets, \$5.



Secret Garden

Still feeling bad about Man's fall from Eden? You may not be able to change the fate of humanity, but you can see the whole thing re-enacted in a Baroque burlesque extravaganza! "Le Serpent Rouge" tells the story of Adam, Eve and that evil snake. And no fig leaves! This is Adam and Eve as they were in the Bible (until they ate that damned apple, that is!)

8 pm, "Le Serpent Rouge" Company XIV, 203 Bond St. between Union and Sackett streets in Carroll Gardens, (212) 668-4441. Tickets are \$20 (\$15, students).

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, MAY 8

BKLYN DESIGNS: Annual expo, \$15 (\$12 in advance, \$10 students, 10 am-6 pm, St. Ann's Warehouse, 33 Water St. at Dock Street in DUMBO, (718) 254-8799, www.bklyndesigns.com.

BOOK FAIR: Free, 10 am-4 pm, First Unitarian Church (Pierrepont Street at Monroe Place in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 626-5466).

MOTHER'S DAY POP-UP SHOP: Handmade items, Free, 11 am-3 pm, 303 GRAND 303 Grand St. between Rivington and Newmurray streets in Williamsburg, (718) 384-5194, www.303grandinc.com.

STREET DANCE, "CATAPULT": Elizabeth Streb's high-flying dance troupe, \$20 (\$10, 7 pm, Streb Lab for Action Mechanics (51 N. 7th St. between Wythe and Kent avenues in Williamsburg, (718) 384-6491, www.streb.org).

READING, DEAN WAREHAM: Author of "Black Postcards." Free, 7 pm, BookCourt, 163 Court St. between Pacific and Dean Streets in Cobble Hill, (718) 875-3677, www.bookcourt.org.

ART OPENING: Photographers from the Patrick McMullin Company. Free, 7-9 pm, PowerHouse Arena, 127 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049, www.powerhousearena.com.

YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS: Six Red Hook kids perform their original plays, Free, 7 pm, 1517 Sullivan St. between Richards and Van Brunt streets in Red Hook, (718) 395-3218, dththeatre.com.

THEATER, "THE HIGH PRIESTESS OF DARK ALLEY": Mother-daughter drama, \$20 (\$12, 8 pm, BAM Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton St. at Rockwell Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, www.bam.org).

READING, JOHN WRAY: Author of "Lowboy." With Charles Book. Free, 7:30 pm, Word (126 Franklin St. at Milton Street in Greenpoint, (718) 383-0096, wordbrooklyn.wordpress.com).

THEATER, "THE HIGH PRIESTESS OF DARK ALLEY": Mother-daughter drama, \$20 (\$12, 8 pm, Restoration Plaza, 1368 Fulton St. at Marcy Avenue in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 636-0916, ext. 12, www.restorationplaza.org).

THEATER, "HOW SOON IS NOW?": Streets in Red Hook, (718) 395-3218, dththeatre.com.

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SAT, MAY 9

Rep. Ed Towns: Health care town hall meeting, Free, 10 am-1 pm, St. Francis College, 180 Remsen St. at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 855-8018.

MON, MAY 11
Community Board 10 Police and Public Safety committee. Monthly meeting. On the agenda: new liquor license application for Longbow Pub, 7 pm, Community Board 10, 8119 5th Ave. between 81st and 82nd streets in Bay Ridge, (718) 745-6827.

TUES, MAY 12
Community Board 1 full board, 6:30 pm, Senior Services Senior Center, 211 Avenue C at Manhattan Avenue in Williamsburg, (718) 389-0009.

WED, MAY 13
Community Board 2 full board, 6:30 pm, Brown Memorial Baptist Church, 4520 Fourth Ave. at 45th St. between Waverly and Washington avenues in Fort Greene, (718) 596-5410.

THUR, MAY 14
Community Board 4 Landmarks and Land Use committee. Monthly meeting. On the agenda: limiting new building heights in Carroll Gardens, 6:30 pm, Long Island College Hospital, 139 Hicks St. near the College of Atlantic Avenue in Cobble Hill, (718) 643-3027.

FRI, MAY 15
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SAT, MAY 16
Community Board 7 hearing on Sunset Park rezoning, 1 pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Help School, 50th Avenue between 59th and 60th streets in Sunset Park, (718) 854-0003.

SUN, MAY 17
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THURSDAY
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Improv dreamteam
Gentrify Brooklyn is an improv show on a mission — to lure the city's most talented comedians away from Manhattan and back where they belong. Tonight, the show features improv power trios m.a.d., which consists of three women, and Sidecar, which is comprised of three funny-men (is anyone else thinking that these groups must somehow form a family, a la the Brady Bunch?).

10 pm, "Gentrify Brooklyn" The Brooklyn Lyceum, 227 Fourth Ave. at Union Street in Park Slope, (718) 857-4816. Tickets, \$5.

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'Celebrate' time

Summerfest has a little for everyone

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

As if you needed another reason to celebrate Brooklyn, you just got a big one: the schedule for the annual "Celebrate Brooklyn" summer music, dance, film and arts festival has something for everyone.

"It's our 31st year, and we're continuing our tradition of presenting a large and eclectic series that is reflective of Brooklyn's diversity," said Jack Walsh, director of performing arts for BRIC Arts 1 Media 1 Bklyn, which presents the annual series — which features 23 free shows, plus a growing number of ticketed "benefit" concerts by Jackson Browne, TV on the Radio, Bonnie Raitt, MGMT and Animal Collective.

Celebrate Brooklyn — one of the city's longest-running free outdoor performance festivals — kicks off on June 8 with a free show by Talking Heads frontman David Byrne.

But Walsh offered some even quicker personal highlights:

"We have three special movie nights," he said. "In one, Andy Warhol's 'Screen Tests' are set to music by Dean and Brita from the '90s alt-rock band, Luna. It's very cool and interesting."

"Then, we commissioned the Ethel string quartet and Gutbucket to create a new score for 'La Nave de los Monstruos,' which means 'The Monster Ship.' It's a Mexican sci-fi film about female aliens who come to Earth looking for men. It's very campy fun."

Then, of course, is the movie night to end all movie nights: a sing-along version of Prince's "Purple Rain" (everybody, "Purple rain rain/Purple rain") on Aug. 6.



Something to 'Celebrate': TV on the Radio will perform on Aug. 11 (but you have to pay for that).

In between will also be performances by Blonde Redhead (June 26); the Williamsburg aerial dance troupe, Streb (July 9); a family concert with They Might Be (July 11); blues rocker Robert Cray (July 17); Bollywood superstar Kailash Kher (July 25); and reggae giant Burning Spear (July 30).

Celebrate Brooklyn lineup

Monday, June 8, 8 pm: David Byrne

Thursday, June 11, 7:30 pm: Goran Bregovic and His Wedding & Funerals Orchestra

Friday, June 19, 7:30 pm: David Rudder/Samantha Thornhill

Saturday, June 20, 7:30 pm: Movie, "La Nave de los Monstruos," a Mexican sci-fi film with live score by Ethel and Gutbucket

Thursday, June 25, 7 pm: Femi Kuti and The Positive Force/ Melvin Gibbs' Elevated Entry

Friday, June 26, 7:30 pm: Bonnie Raitt and Taj Mahal

Saturday, June 27, 7 pm: Dr. Dog/Phosphorescent/These United States

Wednesday, July 1: MGMT* (sold out)

Thursday, July 2, 7 pm: Obba Babalundé/Cucu Diamantes/Rebel Diaz

Thursday, July 9, 8 pm: Prince, "STREB: Invisible Forces"

Friday, July 10, 7:30 pm: Los

Amigos Invisibles/Aterciopelados

Saturday, July 11, 4 pm: Family concert with They Might Be Giants

Thursday, July 16, 7:30 pm: Kronos Quartet/Luminous Orchestra

Friday, July 17, 7:30 pm: Robert Cray Band/The Sweet Divines

Saturday, July 18, 2-9 pm: African Festival with King Sunny Adé/ Freshly Ground/The Mandingos Ambassadors/Cheikh M'Baye & Sing Sing/Arena Koomson/Yasser Darwish

Tuesday, July 21: Jackson Browne

Thursday, July 23, 8 pm: Dance, Stephen Petronio Company

Friday, July 24, 7:30 pm: Buckwheat Zydeco/The Holmes Brothers

Saturday, July 25, 7:30 pm: Kailash Kher/Electro Morocco

Thursday, July 30, 7:30 pm: Burning Spear/Naomi Shelton and The Gospel Queens

Friday, July 31, 7 pm: Soulive's

10th Anniversary Celebration with John Scofield and Christian Scott/Ivan Neville and Dumastaphunk

Saturday, Aug. 1, 7:30 pm: Movie, "Songs for Andy Warhol's Screen Tests" with Dean and Britta from Luna

Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 pm: Movie, "Purple Rain," sing a long

Friday, Aug. 7, 7 pm: Grace Potter and The Nocturnals/Deer Tick/The London Souls

Saturday, Aug. 8, 7 pm: Big Daddy Kane

Tuesday, Aug. 11: TV on the Radio

Wednesday, Aug. 12: Bonnie Raitt and Taj Mahal

Friday and Saturday, Aug. 14 and 15: Animal Collective

All concerts take place at the Prospect Park band shell (enter park at Ninth Street and Prospect Park West in Park Slope and are free with a \$3 suggested donation (except*, which indicates concerts with varying ticket prices). For ticketing information, visit www.brooklynline.org.

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at Interfaith Medical Center."**

"As a Respiratory Therapist at Interfaith Medical Center for 19 years,

I am gratified to be part of the Pulmonary Health team that cares for our patients with asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, COPD, croup and other pulmonary diseases.

While the hospital continually updates its Respiratory Therapy equipment, I am very excited about our participation in the Respiratory Surge Capacity Project with the City of New York Department of Health through which we have received three new iVent ventilators. These ventilators are portable and can be quickly and easily moved to my patients, saving me time and allowing me to provide even better patient care.

I care deeply for my patients and fortunately they know it. I love it when they tell me how happy they are about the quality of care and personal attention they received at Interfaith Medical Center.

I am a proud Respiratory Therapist at
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**Interfaith
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Brooklyn, NY 11213
Phone (718) 613-4000
www.interfaithmedical.com

Joseph Jean
Respiratory Therapist

100 Wine Tips

Join us for our annual Rosé Festival!

By Darrin Siegfried

It's a hot summer day, and you're enjoying a well-deserved vacation. The sun is shining, there's a light breeze blowing in off the Mediterranean. The light really is different here ... the blues are so rich, the ochres and umbers so deep. It's lunchtime, so you take a table outside a small café and wonder what you should drink. Looking around you, you notice that at every table everyone is drinking ... Rosé!

Rosé wines, dry, not sweet, are the "official" casual warm weather quaffs in winemaking countries all over the world ... including, more and more, the United States. Crisp, aromatic, lively and flavorful, a cool glass of rosé goes with almost any of the foods we love to eat in summer: salads, sandwiches, cold cuts, a cold roasted chicken, fish, shrimp. It's the wine to take along on a picnic, and the wine that can make any meal eaten with it seem like it is a picnic!

Rosé wines are made in several ways. Usually, red grapes are pressed and their skins, which contain the pigment that gives the wine color, is allowed to soak in the juice before fermentation begins. This has the added benefit of allowing some tannins (found in the skins, seeds and stems of grapes) to also be absorbed into the

juice. Tannins, natural preservatives, help to give wines balance, and prevent oxidation. The process of converting animal skins into leather is called tanning because it uses tannins to remove traces of fat and blood from the skins. Because red wine are made by fermenting the juice of the grapes along with the skins, they are higher in tannins than white wines, and are better matches with red meats. Rosé wines, having more tannins than white wines, will complement lighter meats, or even cold roast beef.

Some Rosés are made by adding a bit of red wine to white. Most of the rosé Champagne on the market is made this way.

So, what about "blush wines," like White Zinfandel? In spite of what the marketing departments say, these are rosé wines, made from the Zinfandel grape, a red varietal. It's just a simpler tasting, sweeter version of the real thing.

If you would like to learn more about these delicious, refreshing rosé wines, please join us on Saturday, May 16, between 2 and 6 PM for our Annual Rosé Festival.

You'll have a chance to taste more than a dozen Rosé wines from around the world, and all of our rosé wines will be 10% off. 15% on a case of twelve ... and yes, you can mix and match them for your discount!



211 Fifth Avenue

(between Union & President)

Park Slope (718) 636-9463

www.redwhiteandbubbly.com

Open Mon-Sat: 10am-10pm, Sun: 12pm-8pm

9 DAYS...

Continued from page 6
www.prospectpark.org/
audubon.
CRAZY JOE GALLO
WALKING TOUR: Author
Tom Folson leads tour
of gangster's "South
Brooklyn" haunts. RSVP
suggested. Free, 1 p.m.
Carroll Park (Jonestown) and
Carroll Street in Carroll
Gardens, (718) 643-6848.
www.fleeterbooks.com.
PERFORMANCE
CLASSICAL CONCERT: St.
Luka's Chamber Ensemble
performs works by Robert
and Clara Schumann and
Johannes Brahms. \$35. 2
p.m. Brooklyn Museum (200
Eastern Pkwy. at Washing-
ton Avenue in Prospect
Heights, (212) 594-0100.
www.cdmusic.org.
STREET DANCE, "CATAPULT":
3 and 7 p.m. See Friday,
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**THEATER, "THE HIGH
PRIESTESS OF DARK
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Friday, May 8.
YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS: 3
p.m. See Friday, May 8.
**THEATER, "THE MERCHANT
OF VENICE":** 7:30 p.m. See
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**THEATER, "HOW SOON IS
NOW?":** 8 p.m. See Friday,
May 8.
THEATER, "SHOW BOAT": 8
p.m. See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE TEMPEST":
8 p.m. See Friday, May 8.
**THEATER, "THE NOSEMAK-
ER'S APPRENTICE":** 8 p.m.
See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE TEMPEST":
8 p.m. See Friday, May 8.
CLASSICAL CONCERT:
Works by Handel, Beet-
hoven, Mozart and Schu-
bert. See Friday, May 8.
JAZZ WITH AVERY SHARPE
TRO: 525-515 students
(and seniors). 8 p.m. Brook-
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(58 Seventh Ave. between
St. John and Lincoln
places in Park Slope, (718)
422-3300). www.bbcm.org.
JAZZ WITH THE CONNEX-

TION WORKS ENSEMBLE
AND THE LAWE LEB-
MAN QUARTET: \$15 (\$10
students). 8 p.m. Belsarian
Church (401 Atlantic Ave. at
Bond Street in Downtown
Brooklyn, (718) 369-4931).
www.conexionworks.org.
MUSIC, LEON REDBONE:
\$35 (\$30 in advance). 8 p.m.
First Unitarian Church (Fur-
report Street at Monroe
Place in Brooklyn Heights,
(718) 288-5994).
NEW OPERA: American
Opera Projects presents a
concert workshop per-
formance of Karan Kapoor's
"Judgement of Midas."
\$10. 8 p.m. South Oxford
Space (138 S. Oxford St.
between Horatio and
Atlantic Avenues in Fort
Greene, (718) 398-4024).
www.operaprojects.org.
**THEATER, "ANYTHING
GOES":** 8 p.m. See Friday,
May 8.
THEATER, "HAMLETT": 8 p.m.
See Friday, May 8.
SALES AND MARKETS
PS 321 FLEA MARKET:
Free. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. PS
321 schoolyard Seventh
Avenue and First Street

http://

For more Brooklyn Nightlife
options, see our listings at
BrooklynPaper.com/Nightlife

In Park Slope, www.
parkslopeallnight.com.
SPRING HANDMADE
CAVALCADE: Free. 10
am-4 pm. The Ball House
(149 Seventh St. at Third
Avenue in Gowanus,
(718) 643-6510).
www.theballhouse.com.
ARTISTS AND FLEAS IN
MCCARREN PARK: Free.
10 am-4 pm. McCarran
Park (Bedford Avenue and
Lottimer Street in Williams-
burg). www.artistsandflea.com.
BROOKLYN FLEA: Free. 10
am-5 pm. Bishop Loughlin
HS (257 Clermont Ave.
in Fort Greene, www.
brownstower.com/
brownstower.org).
BOOK FAIR: Free. 10 am-4
pm. First Unitarian Church
(Pierpoint Street at
Monroe Place in Brooklyn
Heights, (718) 624-5460).
PROSPECT PARK CRAFT
FAIR: Fundraiser for PS
154. Free. 10 am-6 pm.
Barclay Pritchard Square
(Prospect Park West and
Prospect Park Southwest
in Prospect Park). www.
greenies.com/parkcraft.
OUTDOOR MARKET: Free.
10 am-4 pm. Flatbush
Dutch Reformed Church
(Flatbush Avenue and
Church Avenue in Flatbush,
(718) 284-5140).
ARTISTS AND FLEAS: Free.
11 am-7 pm. Smith
Street and Union Street
in Williamsburg, www.
brooklynindiemarket.com.
BROOKLYN INDI MARKET:
Free. 11 am-7 pm. Smith
Street and Union Street
in Williamsburg, www.
brooklynindiemarket.com.
MOTHER'S DAY POP-UP
SHOP: See Friday, May 8.
PIER SHOW OPENING:

'Golden' girl: Jill Scoble plays Union Hall in Park Slope
on May 13 — and has a new CD, "California Years."

sign books after screening.
\$7.30 PM. Light Industry
(220 36 St. between Sec-
ond and Third avenues in
Sunset Park). Light Indus-
try.org.

SUN, MAY 10

OUTDOORS AND TOURS

PROSPECT PARK BIRD-
WATCHING WALK: Led
by the Brooklyn Bird Club.
Free. 7 am. Prospect Park
Grand Army Plaza entrance
(Grand Army Plaza at East-
ern Parkway in Prospect
Park). www.birdclub.org.
TOUR, BRIDGES AND
ARCHES: Free. 1 p.m. Pros-
pect Park Audubon Center
(Enter park at Lincoln Road
and Ocean Avenue in Pros-
pect Park, (718) 287-3400).
NAVY YARD BUS TOUR: Led
by the Brooklyn Historical
Society. Reservations
recommended. \$30. 1:30
p.m. Brooklyn Historical
Society (128 Pierpoint St.
at Clinton Street in Fort
Greene, (718) 636-4100).
www.bhm.org.

TALK, ROZ CHAST: The New
Yorker staple discusses her
career and presents some
of her favorite cartoons.
Free. 4 pm. Brooklyn Public
Library's Central Branch
(Grand Army Plaza at East-
ern Parkway in Park Slope,
(718) 230-2100).
FILM, "EXTREME PRIVATE
EROS": Documentary by
Hara Kazuo. Director will

OTHER
BKLYN DESIGNS: See Friday,
May 8.
BLOCK PARTY: Live bands,
a fashion show, kid's enter-
tainment and more. With
special treats from Greene
Grass Productions. Free.
Noon-midnight. Habana
Coupout (177 Fulton St. at
St. Portland Avenue in Fort
Greene, www.habanacoup-
out.com).
FILM, "THE COMPANY":
Robert Altman's late-career
film. \$11. 2 pm, 6:50 pm.
Brooklyn Academy of
Music (30 Lafayette Ave.
near St. Felix Street in Fort
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QUARTET: \$6. Noon. Pup-
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pm. Brooklyn Academy of
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Greene, (718) 636-4100).
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PUBLIC ART LAUNCH: New
art space premieres with
Mural by Charlotte Jen-
sen. Free. 3-6 pm. Great
Wall of Brooklyn (387
Myrtle Ave. in Fort Greene,
646-290-7253).
www.greatwallbrooklyn.org.
ART OPENING: Art by Jeffrey
Schul and Vincent Sarek.
Free. 5-7 pm. Bar Olivino
(899 Fulton St. between
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avenues in Clinton Hill).
www.brooklynart.com.

NEW OPERA: 7:30 pm. See
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READING, REIF LARSEN:
Author of "The Selected
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7:30 pm. Barnes & Noble
207 Seventh Ave. at Fifth
Street in Park Slope, (917)
559-4770.

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EDDY MOTHERS READING:
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THEATER, "A GATHERING":
Metaphysical thriller. \$15.
\$18. 8:30 pm. Brooklyn
Lyceum (227 Fourth Ave.
at President Street in Park
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www.nervetank.com.

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STREET DANCE, "CATAPULT":
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BookCourt (163 Court St.
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875-3677). www.book-
court.org.
See 9 DAYS on page 14

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NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
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From Tottenville to Tremont, Mike Bloomberg is working hard to protect every neighborhood in all five boroughs — and that means fighting every day to keep the quality of life high for all of us.

Today, New York is the **safest big city** in America. Our streets are the **cleanest** they have been in more than 30 years. And with 3-1-1, help from the City is one phone call away.

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7 pm. St. Ann's Church (157
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Help (545 60th St. between
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8655). www.olyphilly.org.
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By a 'Nose'

We smell a hit in Brick's 'Nosemaker's Apprentice'

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

One of the smallest theaters in Brooklyn is presenting a giant of a comedy.

Nick Jones and Rachel Shukert's "The Nosemaker's Apprentice: Chronicles of a Medieval Plastic Surgeon" is that rare spoof that is not only a delicious satire, but also a comedy packed from tail to snout with guffaw-inducing one-liners.

The comic landscape of "The Nosemaker's Apprentice" is a well-spring of possibilities. The setting: Medieval England, a vicious and cruel place (how vicious and cruel? Several of the characters created even before they were conceived).

The most comic of the play's conceits is its seeming plausibility: returning warriors from the Crusades would have certainly needed the services of a "nosemaker" such as Wulfric. From this humble jumping off point, the plot begins its absurd send-up of human vanity. Wulfric (the amazing Corey Sullivan) needs an apprentice, so he heads to the Ivan-

hoe Workhouse for Criminally Impoverished Boys and takes Gavin (Eric Gilde) to be his assistant.

Gavin proves to be up to the task, quickly learning all of Wulfric's secrets ("Bring me the semen of a griffin" is actually an instruction to "boil some water"). And he also quickly falls in love with Wulfric's daughter, Amelia (the stunning Molly Ward), telling her, "You are the most beautiful, and the only woman I've ever seen."

But before that love can be consummated, Wulfric sends his protégé to the "Nosemaker's Academy of Vienna, where he can be trained as a personal plastic surgeon, though that doesn't go so well either.

Gavin eventually escapes — but everyone is dead, except Amelia, though now she is a syphilis prostitute who has lost her innocence, her decency and even her nose.

Gavin restores the nose just in time for the couple to be burned at the stake as heretics — the perfect comic conclusion.

Jones and Shukert's script is the best American spoof since "SUV-

the waiter says before reciting a list of great entries).

Eventually, Gavin is hired by the Queen of France (Sullivan again) to be her personal plastic surgeon, though that doesn't go so well either.

Gavin eventually escapes — but everyone is dead, except Amelia, though now she is a syphilis prostitute who has lost her innocence, her decency and even her nose.

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Jones and Shukert's script is the best American spoof since "SUV-

Body of work: Rightor Doyle (left) and Corey Sullivan star in "The Nosemaker's Apprentice," a spoof about a medieval plastic surgeon, at the Brick Theater in Williamsburg.



Photo by [unreadable]

'Tommy' rockers

Gallery Players musical is a smash!

Gallery Players does such a bang-up job with "The Who's Tommy," you'll be asking, "Tommy, can I see you — again?"

Park Slope hasn't rocked this hard since Life in a Blender played Barbes.

Admittedly, my taste tends to favor the refined art of the rock opera over the more pedestrian genre of Broadway musicals. As such, I've always been a bigger fan of the Who's "Tommy," rather than "The Who's Tommy," the sub-

sequent musical adaptation. But now that the Gallery Players nearly brought down its 14th Street playhouse, I'm re-evaluating that position.

The success of the show, which runs through May 24, starts with the live band playing the coming-of-age soundtrack from the Who's 1969 album about the deaf, dumb and blind kid who sure plays a mean guitar.

The four-piece band is tighter than the blaring, sloppy British rockers, and that's a good thing when staging a synchronized musical with lots of dance numbers.

Just like the tunes that inspired it, the show chronicles the title character's descent into a world of his despair after witnessing his father kill his mother's lover upon returning home from World War II. For years after-



Photo by [unreadable]

Feel him: Brett Travis has the title role in the Gallery Players' production of "The Who's Tommy."

atives to become a cerebral pinball champion fueled by a preternatural skill. Eventually, he breaks out of the spell.

The cast belted out the classic rock anthems. The Gypsy (Marcus Henderson) sings a sultry version of "Acid Queen" rivaling Tina Turner's own rendition. Tommy (Brett Travis) has an outstanding, crystal clear voice.

The show suffered some minor technical difficulties. The amplification system was not always in sync, as the rocking and rolling band occasionally drowned out singers, but nothing that couldn't be in-oced out before I see this show again.

"The Who's Tommy" at the Gallery Players 199 14th St., between Fourth and Fifth avenues, (718) 832-0477 through May 24. Tickets \$18.

The Butcher of Flatbush Extension

By Mike McLaughlin

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Photo by [unreadable]

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The Brooklyn Paper PARENTHOOD

KIDS • SCHOOL • STYLE • TEENS • CAMPS • MUSIC

Suffering from 'empty nest attacks'

Like Smartmom herself, quite a few Park Slope moms are getting ready to send their first child to college on a gap year next fall. It's a major transition and one that is likely to bring tears to their eyes.

"It's the end of all the fun we had together as a family," one friend told Smartmom the other day. "The end of all that."

Smartmom listened with empathy, but for the life of her, she couldn't remember the last time that she and her crew actually had fun as a family. Who has the time or energy for family Scrabble games or sing-a-longs by the Casio piano?



Photo by [unreadable]

These hallinations were vivid and occasionally seared his cigarettes on his jeans jacket, see his eyes roll when she expressed her opinions, and feel manipulated when he acted so sweetly when he needed spending money.

It's this reminded Smartmom of another friend, the mother of two girls, who sent her girls off to college last fall. For months, she was an emotional wreck about life without her girls. She was scared, nervous and unsure of who she would be without them. She didn't have a picture of what her life would be like after they left.

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friend started crying so hard listening to the "Pinochio" song in the car, she had to pull over. For another, the breakdown came in Little Things Toy Store. Still another got emotional at the smell of Pizzeria.

Smartmom didn't think it would happen to her, but there it was: stark emotional pain at the thought of losing her first-born to adulthood. She felt pierced by the sting of mortality: where did the time go? Who is that tall handsome man in the living room?

Then, like a well-meaning post-traumatic stress disorder, Smartmom began to feel an emotional pang that spread across her chest like heartburn (no, she wasn't having a coronary, just a little heart-break). And then she understood what was going on.

Smartmom was having an empty-nest attack. She'd heard about them. They can hit you when you least expect it and cause tears and heart palpitations out of the blue. One

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1:30 pm: 4:30 pm: Birthday party for Fantasia. See Saturday, May 9.

2:30 pm: 4:30 pm: "Aladdin." See Saturday, May 9.

1 pm: Nature Crafts. See Saturday, May 9.

1:30 pm: Science Fun. See Saturday, May 9.

3 and 7 pm: "The Colonists." Funny puppet show about the 17th century. Theater 575 Metropolitan Ave. at Lorimer Street in Williamsburg. (718) 907-6189.

MON, MAY 11

11:30 am: Storytime. \$2.50. Mouse Spot 81 Atlantic Ave. between Hicks and Henry streets. (718) 923-9710, themousepot.com.

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OUR OPINION

More 'Park' malarkey

This week brought yet another reminder that promises aren't worth the budgetary paper they're printed on when Brooklyn Bridge Park is concerned.

As Mike McLaughlin and Ben Muesig reported this week, Mayor Bloomberg has cut \$8 million from the city's contribution towards constructing the waterfront park and open-space development — a cut that will eliminate a footbridge between Squibb Park on Columbia Heights and the northern end of the proposed park.

Of course, we've long argued that the financing scheme and user-unfriendly layout of the Brooklyn Bridge Park development ensures that the open space component will be enjoyed mostly by the residents of the 1,200 units inside the "park" footprint.

But this week's budget cut hammers one more nail in the coffin of public access, while shedding light on how the mayor would handle the development project should Gov. Paterson cede control to the city.

Mayor Bloomberg's budget cut to Brooklyn Bridge Park this week is a declaration that he doesn't favor a real park, but one that serves as a backyard for its tenants.

Indeed, Mayor Bloomberg's move confirms several things: "Promises of a glorious, 'world class' greenspace along the Brooklyn Heights waterfront mean nothing when the budget for the park, now \$350 million to build only a portion of it, keeps ballooning."

"There is no guarantee that the 'park' will actually be linked to its closest neighbors: residents of Brooklyn Heights."

"Politics, not people, is driving this waterfront bonanza."

The mayor said earlier this year that he wants the state to relinquish control of the development project to the city — and in that con-

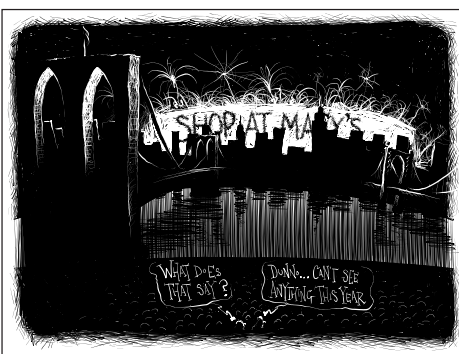
text, his move this week is nothing short of a declaration that he doesn't favor a real park, but one that serves as a mere backyard for its tenants.

It may seem strange that the neighborhood's councilman, David Yassky, countenanced the mayor's budget cut to a park project in his district, but Yassky is merely parroting the paper tigers at the Brooklyn Heights Association, which has long fought any link between the park and the Heights, lest thousands of park-goers (unwashed masses all) be free to roam through stately Brooklyn Heights.

The association, for example, objects to what should be a no-brainer: a link from the famed Brooklyn Heights Promenade to the waterfront at Montague Street.

It has long been clear that the political establishment wants a secluded waterfront paradise for luxury tenants, built by hand-picked development cronies of the governor, (or soon, mayor), and not what this newspaper has long called for: a real park.

ALL DRAWN OUT



LETTERS

St. Joe's prez speaks — but only in a letter

To the editor,

Your recent front-page article ["Gym-nausea! Neighbors St. Joe's b-ball arena is ugly" April 23] had some inaccuracies.

For one, your reporter stated that the college would not make its rendering available to The Brooklyn Paper. Unfortunately, your reporter, Mike McLaughlin, never spoke to anyone at the college to request the rendering or seek information about the project.

As loyal Brooklyn residents for almost 100 years, through the good times and the bad, the faculty, students and staff of St. Joseph's remain committed to maintaining the beauty and charm of Clinton

Avenue.

As St. Joseph's College strives to provide a well-rounded collegiate experience for our students, we recognize that athletics play an integral part in achieving that goal. Today, the college offers 11 varsity sports and boasts of conference championships in both women's and men's athletics, all accomplished without the benefit of an intercollegiate gymnasium.

The college looks forward to working closely with all of our neighbors in Clinton Hill on the gymnasium project. Together, we can achieve our goal of enhancing both the college campus and its beautiful surroundings.

Sister Elizabeth Hill, Clinton Hill
The writer is president of St. Joseph's College.

Editor's note: Reporter Mike McLaughlin called the college repeatedly before, and after, his story was published, but received no response.

Send a letter

By e-mail: newsroom@cnglocal.com

By mail: Letters, The Brooklyn Paper, One MetroTech Center, Suite 1001, Brooklyn, NY 11201.

All letters must be signed and include the writer's home address and phone number (only the writer's name and neighborhood are published with the letter). Letters may be edited and will not be returned. The earlier in the week you send your letter, the better.

Crime no joke

To the editor,

I find your subheads in the Police Blotter section reprehensible ("Police Blotter, every week"). Since when does a journal make light of serious criminal activity

with puns and other attempts at humor? If one of your loved ones was held up at gunpoint or injured during a strong-arm robbery, how would you feel if someone made a joke about it?

Shame on you!

Ed Silver, Manhattan

Canal murky

To the editor, Developers and their paid-for politicians would like "facts and hearsay" to be "as murky as the waterway itself." ("Superfund Showdown on the Gowanus," May 1), but a few things are clear.

Whole Foods was supposed to build a franchise alongside the Gowanus several years ago, but it is virtually impossible to clean up the site enough. Now, the project looks dead.

The city is in the process of developing a site along the canal, though it admits that it will take years and millions of dollars to clean.

"Toll Brothers doesn't care a thing about the neighborhood or about the Gowanus Canal. All that company cares about is getting in there, making killing and leaving, clean-ups and cancer be damned."

As for the cost, the city will

have to pay one way or another. If the Superfund isn't used, the city will have to clean up the canal by itself. It's been over 30 years that I've heard about the city cleaning up the Gowanus, but it hasn't happened yet.

The current economic debacle on Wall Street and beyond should have taught citizens that they need to be proactive regarding government, instead of hoping that politicians and titans of industry know what they're doing. Just as in the case of Atlantic Yards, people aren't against development, per se. It has to do with scale, with integrity, with consideration for, and with the will of human beings.

Herman Kolender, Carroll Gardens

Rezone now!

To the editor,

As a 20-year artist/resident of DUMBO, I am at a complete loss to understanding Community Board 2's rejection for the mixed-use rezoning proposal in DUMBO ("CB2: Rezoning in the elephant in the room in DUMBO," April 8). This plan has been a long time coming, 13 years to be exact. I was there when concerned residents sought to replace the outdated

heavy industrial zoning with one that reflected the actual uses of the neighborhood, which was then already a healthy mix of residential, artistic, and commercial activity. At the time, DUMBO was downing in deleterious and thoughtless piecemeal development based on the whims of individual developers. We were heard; people requested something, and the city responded affirmatively.

The mixed-use proposal before us is the first non-developer-driven rezoning plan for the neighborhood. It is also the most comprehensive one to date. Countless hours and city resources and environmental studies have gone into developing this sound plan, which is thoughtfully consistent with the historic context of existing building stock. And this plan includes the meritorious and critical component of affordable housing.

It provides opportunity for economic and job growth for the eastern portion of the neighborhood, which is struggling to survive as numerous mom-and-pop businesses are closing.

It is most important to note that the choice is not between this plan or another plan. The choice is between this plan or nothing. And no reaction will lead to more disinte-

gration of the neighborhood through another bout of piecemeal development and out-of-scale towers that are sure to overshadow the gritty historical beauty of DUMBO. Let's not waste the efforts that have gone into this plan, and pass it without further delay.

Marcia Hillis, DUMBO

Laugh bus

To the editor,

I am writing to thank The Brooklyn Paper for the great laugh you provided me and a half-dozen other people at my local haunt when we saw the photo accompanying your recent article about supposed bus noise ("Bad vibrations in Bay Ridge," April 28).

The sight of a grown man covering his ears as a bus "roared" by was too good to be true. And as the paper got passed around, the reactions ranged from giggles to full-blown hysterics.

But then, while reading the article, it just got funnier. For residents of 78th Street to NIMBY suggest re-routing a bus so that car alarms on their street would stop going off is so insane, so preposterous, well, I'll leave it there. Keep up the good work. At this

rate, I expect the "Colbert Report" to show up in Bay Ridge.

Clarence Eckerson Jr., Red Hook

Gaian warrior

To the editor,

All the articles about my dispute with the Brooklyn Philharmonic leave out something central — the piece's topic ("Losing his composure," April 14). I risked my personal savings on "Gaian Variations" because Gaia Theory is one of the most important ideas for human survival.

While I was writing it, more than 1,000 scientists signed a declaration giving weight to the central tenet of Lovelock's Gaia Theory — that our planet self-regulates.

That's vital, because it's bound up with the climate.

Starting in 2012, the biotic "negative feedback loops" that Lovelock first saw — and effects of their loss — will become part of accepted climate models. Unfortunately, one expert on arctic ice now predicts an ice-free arctic summer by then — only three years from now — with potentially staggering effects for us all.

Nathan Currier, Greenwood, Va.

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Bloomy's Squibb kick

Mayor's pulls \$8M from 'Park' budget

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

The Brooklyn Bridge Park development suffered yet another blow this week when a proposed bridge connecting it to Brooklyn Heights was axed in Mayor Bloomberg's new budget. The Bloomberg Administration has learned.

The mayor's \$8-million trim in the city's outlay for construction of Brooklyn Bridge Park would force the elimination of a long-planned footbridge linking long-closed Squibb Park on Columbia Heights to the vast open fields being built atop Pier 1, just south of the Brooklyn Bridge.

The Bloomberg Administration sought to minimize the impact of the budget cut, which slices the city's contribution to the controversial \$350-million park and condo project from \$102 million to \$94 million over the next two years.

"Some modifications that don't undermine the overall design will



Squibb Park in Brooklyn Heights was to have a connection to the proposed Brooklyn Bridge Park waterfront development.

be made, such as reducing the landscaping and not building the bridge to Squibb Park," mayor spokesman Jason Post wrote in an e-mail to The

Brooklyn Paper.

The mayor's budget, revealed last week, partially reneges on previous funding promises to the 85-acre proj-

ect and evoked memories of threats Bloomberg issued in March to withhold city funds if Gov. Paterson did not cede full control to Brooklyn Bridge Park and Governors Island, both joint city-state ventures, according to the Daily News.

The mayor's office said Bloomberg is not carrying out his ultimatum, even he's prepared to pare down allocations to the project.

"The city will not walk away from historic investments in Brooklyn Bridge Park," Post said.

The looming cutbacks will not disrupt the goal of opening the first sections of the park by the end of this year, said the state-run Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation.

"By the end of 2009, Pier 1 and Pier 6 are expected to be open to the public making the long-awaited dream of Brooklyn Bridge Park a reality," the agency's said in a statement.

Besides the grand entrances at Atlantic Avenue and Old Fulton Street, the bridge to Squibb Park was seen as a vital access point to the long silver of waterfront open space, and its loss is further erosion of the highly touted park designs.

Losing it means the park "might lose the only link from Brooklyn Heights," said Judi Francis, a frequent critic of the project's management.

The pedestrian bridge could join the fate of other features thrown to the wayside. Several recreation elements, including basketball courts, a kayaking cove and passive lawns are unfunded until the state or city supplies additional money. Meanwhile, the state Department of Environmental Conservation prohibited walkways above the East River and between the piers, citing possible harm to aquatic life from the shadows that would be cast by the causeways.

Brooklyn Bridge Park has an unusual funding scheme in which 1,200 luxury apartments, a hotel and shopping will be inside the "park," and instead of paying normal property taxes, such businesses will pay fees to cover an estimated \$16.1 million in annual upkeep. But many of these private pieces are on hold due to the sluggish real-estate market.

Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) whose district includes Brooklyn Bridge Park, supported the mayor's budget cut.

"While the situation is not ideal, given the severe economic downturn, we are fortunate that further cuts for Brooklyn Bridge Park were not recommended," said Yassky in a statement.

— with Ben Muessig

RIVER CAFE...

Continued from page 1
and we keep working to make it better," O'Keefe wrote. "Now, some think they have a better idea."

The letter mentioned Brooklyn Bridge Park, but did not directly refer to any plan to damage or shrink the River Cafe's grounds.

"There are great risks when imposing any new park design over an area that is already a proven success since every new design (including The Brooklyn Bridge Park) is subject to its

own 'limited probability of success,'" he wrote in the letter's kicker.

Final designs for the parkway have not been settled yet, but O'Keefe's is increasingly confident that the damage won't be as extensive as he originally feared, he told The Brooklyn Paper last week.

"When you're dealing with municipalities, sometimes they're unreasonable," he said. "I wasn't sure we were going to work it out."

For now, O'Keefe said he believes

it will work out — and officials from the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation agreed.

"For more than 30 years, the restaurant has lured both visitors and New Yorkers to Brooklyn's waterfront. That's why we are working with you to come," said Regina Myer, president of the Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation.

The agency did not make a rendering available to The Brooklyn Paper. O'Keefe did not own the land under his landmark restaurant. Since 1977, when the cafe opened, he's had a long-term lease with city, which has been extended and now runs until 2025. He pays \$1,667 rent per month — roughly equal to 10 people ordering the \$125 six-course tasting menu and a bottle of a 2001 Chateau La Mission Haut Brion.

He's also responsible for maintaining 600 feet of public waterfront from the dock, where his Ice Cream Factory venture stands to a point under the Brooklyn Bridge.

In other developments, The Brooklyn Paper has learned that a portion of Water Street, which intersects Old Fulton Street in front of the River Cafe, will be narrowed to create the link between the park's northern and southern ends, too.

Passive recreation areas at Pier 1, just south of the Brooklyn Bridge, and Pier 6, near the foot of Atlantic Avenue, are scheduled to open later this year.

OPEN DOOR

Continued from page 1
doors open all the time," she said. "It doesn't make any sense."

Other Brooklyn bakers agree that open doors are a common — and eco-friendly — way to cool their stifling storefronts and attract customers.

"In this energy-conscious era, you'd think it would be okay to keep the door open instead of using the air conditioner," said Eric Goetz, owner of Blue Sky Bakery on Fifth Avenue in Park Slope. "It seems like an outdated rule."

Despite the baker's objections, the city says it's an open and shut case when it comes to doors.

"Health Code requires all openings to a food service establishment

— prevent the entry of pests that may contaminate food," said Department of Health spokeswoman Erin Brady. "Any food service establishment in violation of this requirement will be cited upon inspection."

This is hardly the first time that local businesses have gotten hit where it hurts — the wallet — from the enforcement of obscure city ordinances.

Last December, a new pet shop in Clinton Hill almost screwed the pooch when the Department of Sanitation unloaded 116 tickets on it for illegal fliers.

The same agency also snared merchants for deploying A-frame signs more than three feet into the sidewalk.

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Marty talks Coney re-zoney

Coney Island belonged to Borough President Markowitz last week. He grabbed the spotlight on Wednesday by announcing his support for Mayor Bloomberg's controversial plan to rezone — and hopefully redevelop — the so-called "People's Playground." Then, on Thursday morning, the Beep (right) hobbled with an elephant and some clowns as part of the publicity campaign for Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey's circus, which is pitching a tent next to the Boardwalk this summer. Yet Markowitz still had time on Thursday afternoon for a frank dialogue with The Brooklyn Paper. In a broad-ranging discussion with our senior reporter Mike McLaughlin, he reminisces about his youth in Coney Island, tells the neighborhood's main landowner, Joe Sitt, to sell or shut up, and confesses that his beloved big box retailers don't belong in the amusement zone. It's an interview you'll see only in The Brooklyn Paper.



Brooklyn Paper: The mayor's Coney Island rezoning plan calls for spending taxpayer money to buy land and build a city-owned theme park adjacent to a tourist quarter of hotels, restaurants and other attractions. It also aims to build thousands of new apartments in other parts of the neighborhood.

You back the plan, but said this week that it needs to be amended so that there are no amusements, "guaranteed glitz" in the streetscape and jobs for union and local workers. How did you make up your mind?
MARKOWITZ: I approved it with improvements. The mayor and his folks came out with a very viable rezoning. I'm one of the very few that are currently involved in the process that is actually a product of Coney Island during its heyday, a little bit in the 1940s, the 1950s and into the '60s. That experience comes out in my recommendations. You can't bring back yesterday. But you could move Coney Island into the 21st century [by] expanding the amusement area. Let's face it, what's going to drive more people to Coney Island are more amusements. It's not a mall and it shouldn't be a mall. It's about entertainment and kids and their families.

BP: One of your proposed amendments to the mayor's plan was a request that they don't bring in just one operator to run the theme park that the Bloomberg wants built. But the small merchants have faced such a hard time for many reasons. Maybe the better way to create a thriving People's Playground is with one big amusement park?

MARKOWITZ: I guess maybe it's a throw-back [idea]. I'm concerned about a bland, uniform amusement area. Coney Island is

not Disney World. It's not Six Flags. The beauty of Coney Island's uniqueness is that anybody can get there by subway. It's unlike any other place in America. It's easily accessible and you don't have to pay to get into the amusement area. You can spend as much or as little as you want.

BP: Speaking of money, there's no price tag attached to the major city development project. How can you tell the public it's a good project when the city won't say how much it has to spend?

MARKOWITZ: I know. That's always challenging times. I'm not a businessman. I'm not in position to know what is the proper amount. But I know that in order to make money, you have to put money in. This is an investment the city is making for the future. The city has made an offer to buy 10-12 acres of land in the amusement area from Joe Sitt that it thinks is reasonable. The property owner thinks he can do better. I'm hoping the private developer in this case becomes part of the future of Coney Island in a way within the plan that ultimate come from City Council or decides to sell and understand that the concept of Coney Island is bigger than any of us.

BP: But why shouldn't the city let Sitt take charge of redeveloping Coney Island? He owns more than 10 acres of land, and at times, he's talked about an amusement park, hotels and attractions.

MARKOWITZ: Everyone has gone over this and it included a large retail component. I have no problem with hotels as long as they don't become year-round living spaces or residential spaces. Once you do that, it's the end of Coney Island. Once you allow regular retail in there, that makes it a mall.

Clowns on Coney Island

Ringling Bros. pitches tent on Boardwalk

By Mike McLaughlin
The Brooklyn Paper

He might not be the king of Brooklyn, but Borough President Markowitz is the borough's one court jester.

With great fanfare last Thursday morning, the irrepressible showman from Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus to announce that tickets are now for sale for the summertime run of the so-called "Greatest Show on Earth" in Coney Island.

The first show of the "Boom-A-Ring" spectacle under a big tent on the Boardwalk and Surf Avenue, (201) 507-8900, June 18 to Sept. 7. Tickets start at \$10. For info, visit the Ringling Bros. Web site.

Operators are standing by. While you're on hold, read this week's interview with Markowitz, above.

Coney Island Boom-A-Ring [West 21 Street between the Boardwalk and Surf Avenue, (201) 507-8900, June 18 to Sept. 7. Tickets start at \$10. For info, visit the Ringling Bros. Web site.



BIG MOUTH: Ringling Brothers ringmaster Johnathan Lee Iverson (right) joined Minnie the elephant and some clowns at Coney.

Head to Coney for big 'Tug'

By Gersh Kuntzman
The Brooklyn Paper

Get ready for a "Wall Street vs. Main Street" battle that could finally settle this thing once and for all.

Instead of waiting on the sidelines while America endlessly debates responsibility for our current malaise, several of Coney Island's amusement operators and, of course, the wacky guys behind the annual Nathan's hot dog eating contest, have invited "current and former Wall Street 'Masters of the Universe'" to compete in a winner-take-nothing tug of war against "a team of regular Joe's" on Saturday, May 30.

"This is nothing short of a 'day of judgment,'" said organizer George Shea, best known for his leadership of the July 4 franks. "I have arranged for a police escort for the Wall Street guys, of course."

Shea added that he has offered to make the 1,000-foot rope available to any other groups "with an intractable disagreement."

"Atheists and believers, North and South Koreans, cats and dogs — they all have to work out their thing," Shea said.

The tug of war is just one of the events that will (hopefully)

restore some lustre to Coney Island this summer. In addition to the annual hot dog eating contest, the Mermaid Parade is set for June 20, the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus will run from June 18 through Sept. 7, and the AVP Professional Beach Volleyball tour is set for July 3-5. Marty Markowitz's Seaside Summer Concert Series will continue on Thursday nights and the Brooklyn Cyclones start their season in June.

The Wall Street vs. Main Street tug of war, Coney Island beach [between West 10th and West 22nd streets], Saturday, May 30, 1 p.m. For info, visit www.coneyislandopen.com.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Latin scholars at St. Saviours HS



The Brooklyn Paper

The National Latin Exam has awarded these St. Saviour students the following medals for their competency. Latin I Silver Medal: Alan Devine-Dunn. Latin I Gold Medal: Deirdre O'Halloran, Meagan Freese, Ekise Chopin, Latine Silver Medal: Mary O'Neill, Latin II Gold Medal: Jessica Pacht, Norcen Deberry, Jenece Benjamin, Maggie Coughlin. Latin IV (Poetry) Gold Medal: Irene Aughbellon.

St. Saviour High School is located at 588 Sixth Street in Park Slope. Call (718) 768-4406 for more information.

Beth Israel, Roosevelt Surgeons on MSNBC



Renowned plastic and reconstructive surgeons, Milton Warner, MD, Monica Tadros, MD and Mark Smith, MD, from Beth Israel Medical Center and Roosevelt Hospital will be profiled in an upcoming three-part documentary series, "A Change of Face," scheduled to air on MSNBC-TV on May 19 and 17, from 10pm-11pm. The show follows nine patients through the treatment of facial disfigurements including head and neck cancer reconstruction, ethnic rhinoplasty, and complex nasal reconstruction.

To reach the doctors: Milton Warner, MD, FCS, (212) 636-3977; Mark L. Tadros, MD, FACS, (212) 844-8796; Monica Tadros, MD, FACS, (212) 523-6756.

Helping kids eat healthy

The Nets, Lutheran Family Health plans and Health Plus teamed up to make Brooklyn kids more healthy. On Monday, March 30, 60 special Brooklyn fans celebrated healthy eating at the Nets game. There was an on-court presentation with Lutheran HealthCare staff including Larry K. McReynolds, executive director of the Lutheran Family Health Centers, Tom Early, executive director of Health Plus and Karen Myrie, MD, medical director of Lutheran's School Health Program.

Five children, who were most active in the Shoot for Better Health plan (described below) presented the game ball and helped the team during their pregame warm-ups. These five all-stars embraced the initiative and made sure they ate five servings of fruits and vegetables a day, only used the TV and computer two hours a day, exercised an hour every day, and stayed away from sodas and sugary drinks. Each kept a personal diary for eight weeks to describe what kept them motivated!



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NY Times

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Fully loaded, sun roof, a/c,
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9 DAYS...

Continued from page 8
ART OPENING: "THE BOLD"
a collaborative design
exhibit of Brooklyn Academy
of Music. See Friday, May 8.
MUSIC, BROOKLYN FOLK
FESTIVAL: Three full
nights of music, plus work-
shops and jams during the
day. \$10 per day or \$25
for all three days. 7 pm.
Jalisco 115 Columbia St. at
Woodluff Street in Coney
Island. See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE HIGH
PRIESTESS OF DARK
ALLEY": See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE WHOP"
TOMMY": See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "SHOW BOAT":
See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "SWEENEY
TODD": See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE NOSEMAK-
ER'S APPRENTICE": See
Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE TEMPEST":
See Friday, May 8.
NEW INDIAN CLASSICAL
MUSIC: Nisha Sirota with
the Chandra Quartet.
\$12. 8 pm. Coney Island
Astoria 161 Main St. at
Water Street in DUMBO.
(718) 222-8500. www.
chandrachamber.com
FILM, "GREENSBORO":
"CLOSER TO THE TRUTH"
Documentary about 1979
Klan murders. \$10 (54
children). 8 pm. Brooklyn
Conservatory of Music. 53
Prospect Park West
at Second Street in Park
Slope. (718) 768-2972.
www.brooklynconservatory.org
DANCE, "LE SERPENT
ROUGE": Company XIV
presents an erotic take on
the Adam and Eve story. 8
pm. 1203 Bond St. between
Sackett and Union Streets
in Carroll Gardens. (718)
648-4444. www.
companyxiv.com
CLASSICAL CONCERT:
Works by Saint-Saëns,
Schumann, George Feltz,
Paul Moravcsik and André
Previn. 5:30 (200 students).
8 pm. Bargemusic (Fulton
Ferry Landing, Old Fulton
Street at the East River in
DUMBO). (718) 624-2083.
www.bargemusic.org
ATYNSLEY VANDERBROUKE
MOVEMENT GROUP: See
Thursday, May 14.
SALES AND MARKETS
PS 321 FLEA MARKET: See
Saturday, May 9.
ARTISTS AND FLEAS IN MC-
CARTEN PARK: See Satur-
day, May 9.
BROOKLYN FLEA: See Sat-
urday, May 9.
THIRD STREET STOP
SALE: Free. 10 am-5 pm.
Third Street and Smith
Street in Carroll Gardens.
(718) 587-4816. See
Saturday, May 9.
BROOKLYN FLEA MARKET:
See Saturday, May 9.
OTHER
NEW YORK PHOTO FESTI-
VAL: See Thursday, May 14.
OPEN STUDIOS: Part of the
South of the Navy Yard
Artist studio stroll. Free.
Noon-6 pm. Inverso Ware-
housing, Inc. 25 Caver
St. between Jefferson
Avenue and Fulton Street
in Bedford-Stuyvesant.
www.35caver.com. Visit
www.southofthenavy.com
to download a map.
VINO FEST: Scandinavian
food, music and shopping.
Free. Noon-5 pm. Owl's
Head Park (68th Street
and Colonial Road in Bay
Ridge). (718) 748-9760.
www.scandinavian-
museum.org
UNDERGROUND ART
SHOW: Fast-moving art
exhibit held in an unused
Walking Tour. 1 pm.
See Saturday, May 9.
PERFORMANCE
ARTHOUSE DANCE COM-
PANY: Learn dancing in a
workshop. Free. 1 pm. J.J.
Byrne Park (Fifth Avenue
and Third Street in Park
Slope). (718) 768-3195.
DANCE AFRICA PRE-
OPENING: Young artists
from the Youth Arts
Academy perform with
dancers from the upcoming
Dance Africa Festival at the
Brooklyn Academy of
Music. \$5 (suggested), 1-6
pm. Restoration Plaza 1368
Fulton St. at Marcy Avenue
in Bedford-Stuyvesant.
(718) 335-6990. www.
restorationplaza.org
THEATER, "THE WHOP"
TOMMY": 2 and 8 pm. See
Friday, May 8.
STREET DANCE, "CATA-
PULT": 3 and 7 pm. See
Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE HIGH
PRIESTESS OF DARK
ALLEY": 3 and 8 pm. See
Friday, May 8.
MUSIC, BROOKLYN FOLK
FESTIVAL: See Friday,
May 8.
THEATER, "ON THE WATER-
FRONT": Reading of Bud
Schuberg's play. Dinner
served. \$18. 7:30 pm. Wal-
terton Museum Barge.
For all 2009 Concerts, call
Reed Street in Red Hook.
(718) 251-8911. www.brooklyn-
newworlddep.org
THEATER, "THE MERCHANT
OF VENICE": See Friday,
May 8.
THEATER, "SHOW BOAT":
See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE NOSEMAK-
ER'S APPRENTICE": See
Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "THE TEMPEST":
See Friday, May 8.
THEATER, "HAMLET": See
Friday, May 8.
DANCE, "LE SERPENT
ROUGE": 8 pm. See Fri-
day, May 8.
CLASSICAL CONCERT:
Brooklyn Conservatory's
New Music Collective
presents works by Cesar
Kucak, Thomas Mello, Chris
Jennrich and more.
\$15 (10 students and
seniors). 8 pm. Brooklyn
Conservatory of Music. 53
Prospect Park West
at Second Street in Park
Slope. (718) 768-2972.
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